

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for distributing print media comprising:
an accumulator pivotable about an axis, the accumulator having a print media inlet and a print media outlet;
the accumulator being configured to accumulate a plurality of sheets of a print media;
a belt having a protrusion that transports the print media out of accumulator through the print media outlet; and
an actuator configured to pivot the accumulator about the axis;
a plurality of output bins, each of the output bins being positioned with an entry point along an arc traced by the print media outlet of the accumulator; and
the accumulator comprises a media staging area configured to support the accumulation of the sheets of the print media, the staging area comprising a combination of a staging location in the accumulator and a portion of a respective one of the output bins, where the accumulator pivots to align the staging location with one of the output bins.
2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the actuator further comprises a motor.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the surface area of the staging location is less than the size of the print media.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising at least one input roller that transports the print media to ~~the~~ a staging location in the accumulator.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a controller operatively coupled to the actuator.

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 16 further comprising: a controller operatively coupled to at least one of the actuator, the input rollers and the belt to coordinate the movement of print media through the accumulator.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the actuator comprises a gear assembly for transferring rotational movement from the motor to the accumulator.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising: a registration roller that moves the print media against a registration wall to align an edge of the print media; and a finishing device disposed inside the accumulator to perform a finishing operation on the print media.

12. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, ~~further comprising:~~
~~a first output bin and a second output bin which receive print media~~
~~discharged from the accumulator; and~~
~~wherein each of the first output bins bin and the second output bin are~~
stationary relative to the axis.

13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 12 wherein each of the
output bins is positioned at a respective location along the arc ~~the first output bin is~~
~~aligned adjacent to a first location and the second output bin is aligned adjacent to a~~
~~second location~~ to receive print media from the print media outlet of the accumulator.

14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for distributing print media comprising:
an accumulator having a print media inlet and a print media outlet, the
accumulator pivoting about an axis of rotation;
the accumulator being configured to accumulate a plurality of sheets of a
print media;
a belt having a protrusion that transports the print media out of
accumulator through the print media outlet; and
means for rotating the accumulator about the axis;
a plurality of output bins, each of the output bins being positioned with an
entry point along an arc traced by the print media outlet of the accumulator; and
a media staging area configured to support the accumulation of the sheets
of the print media by the accumulator, the staging area comprising a combination of a
staging location in the accumulator and a portion of a respective one of the output bins,
where the accumulator pivots to align the staging location with one of the output bins.

15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein:

~~the accumulator comprises a staging location to receive the print media;~~

~~and~~

the staging location has a surface area that is less than the surface area of a predetermined size of the print media that is received by the accumulator.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14 further comprising means for transporting the print media through the accumulator.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14 further comprising means for transporting the print media out of the outlet of the accumulator.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14 further comprising means for activating the means for rotating the accumulator about the axis.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 18 wherein the means for activating the means for rotating the accumulator is also a means for activating the means for transporting the print media through the accumulator and a means for activating the means for transporting the print media out of the outlet of the accumulator.

20. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 14 further comprising:

- a means for aligning the print media inside the accumulator; and
- a finishing means for performing a finishing operation on the print media.

21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein ~~the apparatus for dispensing print media further comprises:~~

~~a first output bin and a second output bin positioned to receive print media dispensed from the accumulator; and~~

~~the first output bins bin and the second output bin are stationary relative to the axis.~~

22. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein ~~each of the output bins is positioned at a respective location along the arc the first output bin is aligned adjacent to a first location and the second output bin is aligned adjacent to a second location~~ to receive print media from the print media outlet of the accumulator.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Previously Presented) A method for distributing print media comprising:

aligning an accumulator with a first location;

receiving a plurality of sheets of a print media sequentially through an inlet of the accumulator;

accumulating the plurality of sheets of the print media in the accumulator before dispensing the print media through an outlet of the accumulator;

positioning the print media received at the inlet such that a portion of the print media is supported by a staging location in the accumulator and a portion of the print media is supported by an output bin;

dispensing the print media through the outlet of the accumulator at the first location;

rotating the accumulator about an axis of rotation to align the accumulator with a second location.

25. (Original) The method of claim 24 further comprising, supporting a portion of the print media on a staging location in the accumulator.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24 further comprising, transporting the sheets of the print media from the inlet of the accumulator to the staging location in the accumulator prior to dispensing the sheets of the print media.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27 further comprising, registering the sheets of the print media after the sheets of the print media is transported to the staging location.

29. (Original) The method of claim 28 further comprising, finishing the registered sheets of the print media in the staging location with a finishing device.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) A printing apparatus comprising:
an image-forming device;
an accumulator pivotable about an axis, and configured to receive print media from the image-forming device;
the accumulator being configured to accumulate a plurality of sheets of print media;
a belt having a protrusion that transports the print media out of accumulator through the print media outlet; and
an actuator configured to pivot the accumulator about the axis;
a plurality of output bins, each of the output bins being positioned with an entry point along an arc traced by a print media outlet of the accumulator; and
a media staging area configured to support the accumulation of the sheets of the print media by the accumulator, the staging area comprising a combination of a staging location in the accumulator and a portion of a respective one of the output bins, where the accumulator pivots to align the staging location with one of the output bins.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Original) The printing apparatus of claim 32, wherein the surface area of the staging location is less than the surface area of the print media.

34. (Original) The printing apparatus of claim 31, wherein the actuator further comprises a motor.

35. (Original) The printing apparatus of claim 34, wherein the actuator comprises a gear assembly for transferring rotational movement from the motor to the accumulator.

36. (Original) The printing apparatus of claim 31, further comprising a controller operatively coupled to the actuator.

37. (Currently Amended) The printing apparatus of claim 31, wherein each of the output bins is further comprising:

~~a first output bin aligned adjacent to a first location to receive print media from the accumulator;~~

~~a second output bin aligned adjacent to a second location to receive print media from the accumulator; and~~

~~the first output bin and the second output bin are stationary relative to the axis.~~

38. (Canceled)

39. (Original) The printing apparatus of claim 31 further comprising a finishing device to perform a finishing operation on the print media.

40. (Original) The printing apparatus of claim 39, wherein the finishing device is a stapler integrated within the accumulator.